CHINA SYMPOSIUM



April 21 - June 1, 1975

Kansas City Art Institute China Symposium, April 19, 1975 Chronology for Introduction to Oriental Art Arthur M. S. Kao, Kansas City Art Institute

Chronological Sequence of Chinese History

ca. 600,000 B.C. Lan-T'ien Men
(A skull found in 1964 in Lan-t'ien-hsien, in Shansi)

ca. 500,000 B. C. Paeking Man, Sinanthropus Pekinesnsis.

(A skull was discovered in 1929 at Chou-k'ou-t'ien, southwest of Peking. The skull mysteriously disappeared in 1941 or 1942. Fragments of another fossil skull of Peking Man, and stone implements were found in 1966 at Chou-k'ou-tien.)

ca. 11,000 B. C. The Neolithic Revolution started.

(The early Chinese ceased to be hunters and fishermen: they settled down, began to build villages and develop the arts of farming and horticulture.

ca. 10,000 - 2,000 B. C.

Yang-shao Culture (or Painted-pottery culture).

Pan-p'o 4,115 B. C. + 110

Pan-shan 2065 B. C. + 100

ca. 4000 - 2,000 B. C.

Lung-shan Culture (or Black-pottery culture)

ca. 2,000 - 1,500 B. C.

Ch'i-chia-p'ing Culture 1725 B. C. and 1695 B. C. + 95 years

ca. 1550 - 1027 B. C. Shang Dy.

1028-722 B. C. Western Chou Dy.

721-481 B. C. Spring and Autumn Annals (Eastern Chou)

480-221 B. C. Warring States (Eastern Chou).

220-205 B. C. Ch'in Dy.

204 B. C. - 9 A. D. Western Han Dy.

10-24 A. D. Hsin Dy.

25-220 A. D. Eastern Dy.

221-589 A. D. Six Dynasties

581-618 A. D. Sui Dy.

619-909 A. D. T'ang Dy.

909-960 A. D. Five Dynasties

960-1127 A. D. Northern Sung Dy. 1127-1279 A. D. Southern Sung Dy.

1279-1368 A. D. Yuan Dy.

1368-1644 A. D. Ming Dy.

1644-1911 A. D. Ch'ing Dy.

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^{*}Available in paperback.

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Kansas City Art Institute CHINA SYMPOSIUM, June 1, 1975 Supplement A, Northern Chinese Cooking Professor Hal E. Wert, Kansas City Art Institute

Northern Cooking

Northern cooking, or Peking style, encompasses the provinces of Hopeh, Shantung, Honan and Shansi, whose major cities are Peking, Tientsin, Tsingtao, Kaifeng and Loyang. While Beef and Oyster Sauce originated in the South, Kwangtung, this "Northern version" emphasizes the more characteristic aspects of the Northern cuisine: ginger, garlic and scallions, used liberally.

Beef and Oyster Sauce a la Peking

- A. 1 lb. top round steak, half freeze, remove fat, slice thin on angle across the grain.
- B. 1 lb. green beans, sliced French style; if fresh, parboil 4 to 5 minutes. Frozen are perfectly alright. Defrost, wash, then pat dry.
- C. 2 large scallions. D. 2 cloves garlic. E. 2 slices fresh ginger root, 1/8" thick. Chop C, D and E fine.
- F. 2 T. soy sauce (any kind). G. 2 T. Oyster sauce (any brand).
- H. 3/4 T. sugar. I. 1 t. cornstarch. J. 8-10 large, dried Chinese mushrooms soaked until soft, about 1/2 hour, then slice thin.

Combine C through I in bowl, adding A, thin sliced beef, and marinate 1/2 hour to 45 minutes in tightly covered container. In a wok, a heavy frying pan will suffice, heat 3 T. peanut oil until it begins to smoke. Toss in thin sliced Chinese mushrooms and stir fry 1 minute. Add marinated beef and any remaining sauce. Slightly well done cooks 5 minutes; medium, 3 3/4 to 4 1/4 minutes; rare, 2 3/4 to 3 minutes. I recommend the slightly well to start as in the sauce, it is succulent, but afterwards - experiment. Now, add B, parboiled French style green beans, mix vigorously until heated through, about 1 to 1 1/2 minutes, and serve.

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Kansas City Art Institute CHINA SYMPOSIUM, June 1, 1975 Supplement B, Western Chinese Cooking Professor Hal E. Wert, Kansas City Art Institute

Western Cooking

Western, or Szechuan, cooking includes the provinces of Szechuan, Kweichow, Hunan and Hupeh. Major cities are Chungking, Chengtu and Ichang. This regional cuisine, one of my very favorites, is characterized by the liberal use of red peppers and wild brown peppercorns, usually called Szechuan pepper. The following recipe is representative.

Chicken with Dry Red Pepper

- A. 2 lbs. chicken breast, skinned, boned and cut in 1" cubes
- B. 1/2 cup raw peanuts (either Virginia or Spanish)
- C. 8 dried red peppers
- D. 1 t. ginger root (chopped fine) Master Sauce
- E. 1 T. soy sauce (to soak chicken)

cooking until golden brown. Remove and

- F. 1 1/2 T. cornstarch (to soak chicken) 2 T. soy sauce
- G. 2 cups peanut oil 1 T. dry sherry
 H. 2 T. peanut oil 1/2 T. cider vinegar

Mix E and F thoroughly in a bowl, adding

A, chicken cubes. Soak for 1/2 hour,

tightly covered. Heat G very hot, add B,

1 T. sugar

1 t. cornstarch

1/2 t. salt

1 t. sesame oil

drain on paper towels. Next, fry chicken cubes in hot oil for 1 1/2 minutes, remove, drain and place on paper towels to remove excess oil. Drain off oil from wok, strain through cheese cloth into container for storage and future use. Take C, dried red peppers, remove tips, ends and seeds. Break into small pieces and set aside. Note: Make sure red peppers are freshly or recently purchased as old ones lose their persuasiveness. Now, heat H, 2 T. oil, in wok or skillet, frying C, red pepper, until it turns very dark - almost black. Add D, chopped ginger, and A, chicken cubes, stirring quickly. Pour Master Sauce into wok, continuing to stir until ingredients are heated and Sauce thickened. Turn off heat, add B, peanuts, stirring thoroughly. Serve immediately.

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Kansas City Art Institute CHINA SYMPOSIUM, June 1, 1975 Supplement C, Eastern Chinese Cooking Professor Hal E. Wert, Kansas City Art Institute

Eastern Cooking

Kiangsu, Chekiang and Anhwei comprise the Eastern cooking region of China. Many cities well known in the West are located in these provinces and include Shanghai, Nanking, Hangchow, Soochow, Wusih, Ninpo and Yangchou. Seafood dominates the cuisine of the region as do marvelous noodle dishes and famous food of the West Lake district. Soup-like dishes are specialties of the seacoast provinces, and the following is one of the best.

Shanghai Crab with Brussel Sprouts

- A. 1 can king crab meat (3/4 cup cooked fresh crab)
- B. 20 fresh brussel sprouts
- C. 8-10 outer leaves of head of green cabbage (Savoy cabbage is nice)
- D. 1 egg white. E. 1 T. chopped ginger. F. 1 T. chopped scallion.
 G. 1 1/2 t. salt. H. 1 T. dry sherry. I. 1 1/2 T. cornstarch (make into a paste with 1/2 T. cold water). J. 3 cups chicken stock (canned is alright). and K. 6 T. of peanut oil.

Remove shell and what have you from A, the crab meat. Tear into small pieces and set aside. Drop 20 fresh brussel sprouts (skip this step if frozen brussel sprouts are used) and the 8-10 outer cabbage leaves into boiling water for 2 minutes. Remove, soak in cold water and dry. In 2 T. of oil (from K), stir fry for 2 minutes; then add 1 cup of chicken stock, from J, and 1/2 t. salt, from G, to the wok and cook for an additional 3 minutes. Remove and place all in a warm bowl. Now, heat 3 more T. of oil, from K, in the wok until very hot. Fry E and F, scallion and ginger, for about 15 to 20 seconds or until aroma abounds. Add A, crab meat, plus H, 1 T. dry sherry, and stir for several minutes. Add remainder of J, 2 cups chicken stock, and remainder of G, 1 t. salt, plus I, the cornstarch paste. Boil until thickened. Then, lightly, but thoroughly beat the egg white and blend slowly into mixture in wok. Add remaining 1 T. of oil after heating it. Turn off heat, stir in brussel sprouts and pour mixture into serving bowl lined with outer cabbage leaves. Serve at once. Do not use soup stock used to keep cabbage warm.

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Kansas City Art Institute China Symposium, June 1, 1975 Supplement D, Southern Chinese Cooking Professor Hal E. Wert, Kansas City Art Institute

Southern Cooking

The cuisine probably most familiar to the American palate, Canton Cooking or the Kwangtung style, predominates in the Southeast clime of China and dominates the American Chinese restaurant scene. The area contains the following provinces: Kwangtung, Fukien, Hainan, Kwangsi and to some extent Taiwan. Many of the cities have been inhabited by Westerners since the Treaty Port Days; Canton, Swatow, Hong Kong and Foochow. Other important cities include Wuchow, Nanning, Liuchow, Amoy, Taipei and Kaohsiung. The style in cooking is characterized by its delicate and profuse use of sauces that have a tendency toward sweetness.

Moo Goo Gai Pan

A. 1 Chicken Breast, 3/4 lb.; skin and bone removed, then partially freeze, slice as thin as is humanly possible.

B. 5 tsp. cornstarch; C. 1 tsp. salt; D. 1 tsp. Dry Sherry; E. 1/4 tsp. ground white pepper; F. 1 lb. can straw mushrooms and small can button mushrooms packed in water; G. 1 cup peanut oil; H. 1/3 cup thinly sliced bamboo shoots; I. 3/4 cup celery cabbage, stalk part only -- no leaves; J. 1/2 tsp. sugar; K. 1 Tbsp. rendered chicken fat (schmatz); L. 2 cups chicken broth; 1 cup optional to be used only if fresh mushrooms are utilized.

Place A, sliced Chicken Breast, in mixing bowl. Add 1 tsp. of B, cornstarch, combined with 1 tsp. of cold water plus C, 1 tsp. salt, D, 1 tsp. Dry Sherry and E, 1/4 tsp. ground white pepper. Blend in order to coat chicken slices thoroughly. Set aside. Now, if fresh button mushrooms are used simmer covered in 1 cup chicken broth, L, for 5 min. Drain, dry, and set aside. In your wok or skillet place G, 1 cup of peanut oil and heat until extremely hot, nearly smoking. Add A, chicken slices, for 30 seconds, just until separated and they lose pink color. Remove and drain. Strain oil thru cheese cloth and save for future use. From this oil take 2 Tbsp. and return to wok that has been wiped clean. Heat, adding F, all mushrooms, H, bamboo shoots and I, celery cabbage. Cook 3 min. Add L, 1 cup chicken broth, and bring to rapid boil. Add J, 1/2 tsp. sugar and cook 1 min. longer. Blend the remainder of B, 4 tsp. cornstarch mixed with 4 tsp. water into mixture in wok. When thick add A, chicken slices, stirring constantly until chicken is heated thoroughly. Splash K, chicken fat, over mixture and serve at once.

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KANSAS CITY ART INSTITUTE

4415 WARWICK BOULEVARD

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64111

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June 19, 1975

Dear Mr. Wilson,

On behalf of the Kansas City Art Institute I would like to thank you for participating in our recent China Symposium. The series was very successful and a part of that success was due to your well received lecture, "Dragon Media."

Enclosed you will find a complete bibliography for the series which includes four Chinese recipies from four of the different cooking regions of China. If you, for any reason, would like additional copies of the bibliography or recipies simply write to China Symposium, Kansas City Art Institute, 4415 Warwick Blvd., Kansas City, Missouri 64111.

Again, thank you for your participation.

Sincerely yours,

Hal Elliott Wert Program Coordinator